

**ATTACHMENT 4**

**LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)**

**ABBREVIATED MODEL PLAN**

**PUBLIC LAW 97-35, AS AMENDED**

**FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2010**

**GRANTEE** State of Maryland

**EIN:** 156600-2033-2033-A2

**ADDRESS** 311 West Saratoga Street

Baltimore MD 21201

**NAME OF LIHEAP COORDINATOR** Ralph Markus

**EMAIL:** rmarkus@dhr.state.md.us

**TELEPHONE:** 410-767-7415 **FAX:** 410-333-0079

**LAST DETAILED MODEL PLAN FILED: FY 2008**

**PLEASE CHECK ONE: TRIBE** ☐ **STATE** ☒ **INSULAR AREA** ☐

**Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families  
Office of Community Services  
Washington, D.C. 20447**

**August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01**

**OMB Approval No. 0970-0075**

**Expiration Date: 09/30/2011**

**THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13)**

Use of this model plan is optional. However, the information requested is required in order to receive a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grant in years in which a grantee is not required to use the detailed model plan. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Assurances

The State of Maryland agrees to:

(grantee name)

(1) use the funds available under this title to--

(A) conduct outreach activities and provide assistance to low income households in meeting their home energy costs, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, consistent with paragraph (5);

(B) intervene in energy crisis situations;

(C) provide low-cost residential weatherization and other cost-effective energy-related home repair; and

(D) plan, develop, and administer the State's program under this title including leveraging programs,

and the State agrees not to use such funds for any purposes other than those specified in this title;

(2) make payments under this title only with respect to--

(A) households in which one or more individuals are receiving--

(i) assistance under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act;

(ii) supplemental security income payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act;

(iii) food stamps under the Food Stamp Act of 1977; or

(iv) payments under section 415, 521, 541, or 542 of title 38, United States Code, or under section 306 of the Veterans' and Survivors' Pension Improvement Act of 1978; or

(B) households with incomes which do not exceed the greater of—

(i) an amount equal to 150 percent of the poverty level for such State; or

(ii) an amount equal to 60 percent of the State median income;

except that a State may not exclude a household from eligibility in a fiscal year solely on the basis of household income if such income is less than 110 percent of the poverty level for such State, but the State may give priority to those households with the highest home energy costs or needs in relation to household income.

(3) conduct outreach activities designed to assure that eligible households, especially households with elderly individuals or disabled individuals, or both, and households with high home energy burdens, are made aware of the assistance available under this title, and any similar energy-related assistance available under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant program) or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(4) coordinate its activities under this title with similar and related programs administered by the Federal Government and such State, particularly low-income energy-related programs under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant program), under the supplemental security income program, under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, under title XX of the Social Security Act, under the low-income weatherization assistance program under title IV of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(5) provide, in a timely manner, that the highest level of assistance will be furnished to those households which have the lowest incomes and the highest energy costs or needs in relation to income, taking into account family size, except that the State may not differentiate in implementing this section between the households described in clauses 2(A) and 2(B) of this subsection;

(6) to the extent it is necessary to designate local administrative agencies in order to carry out the purposes of this title, to give special consideration, in the designation of such agencies, to any local public or private nonprofit agency which was receiving Federal funds under any low-income energy assistance program or weatherization program under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 or any other provision of law on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, except that--

(A) the State shall, before giving such special consideration, determine that the agency involved meets program and fiscal requirements established by the State; and

(B) if there is no such agency because of any change in the assistance furnished to programs for economically disadvantaged persons, then the State shall give special consideration in the designation of local administrative agencies to any successor agency which is operated in substantially the same manner as the predecessor agency which did receive funds for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made;

(7) if the State chooses to pay home energy suppliers directly, establish procedures to --

(A) notify each participating household of the amount of assistance paid on its behalf;

(B) assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment made by the State under this title;

(C) assure that the home energy supplier will provide assurances that any agreement entered into with a home energy supplier under this paragraph will contain provisions to assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of such assistance under applicable provisions of State law or public regulatory requirements; and

(D) ensure that the provision of vendored payments remains at the option of the State in consultation with local grantees and may be contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households, including providing for agreements between suppliers and individuals eligible for benefits under this Act that seek to reduce home energy costs, minimize the risks of home energy crisis, and encourage regular payments by individuals receiving financial assistance for home energy costs;

(8) provide assurances that,

(A) the State will not exclude households described in clause (2)(B) of this subsection from receiving home energy assistance benefits under clause (2), and

(B) the State will treat owners and renters equitably under the program assisted under this title;

(9) provide that--

(A) the State may use for planning and administering the use of funds under this title an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the funds payable to such State under this title for a fiscal year and not transferred pursuant to section 2604(f) for use under another block grant; and

(B) the State will pay from non-Federal sources the remaining costs of planning and administering the program assisted under this title and will not use Federal funds for such remaining cost (except for the costs of the activities described in paragraph (16));

(10) provide that such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures will be established as may be necessary to assure the proper disbursement of and accounting for Federal funds paid to the State under this title, including procedures for monitoring the assistance provided under this title, and provide that the State will comply with the provisions of chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the "Single Audit Act");

(11) permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with section 2608;

(12) provide for timely and meaningful public participation in the development of the plan described in subsection (c);

(13) provide an opportunity for a fair administrative hearing to individuals whose claims for assistance under the plan described in subsection (c) are denied or are not acted upon with reasonable promptness; and

(14) cooperate with the Secretary with respect to data collecting and reporting under section 2610.

(15)\* beginning in fiscal year 1992, provide, in addition to such services as may be offered by State Departments of Public Welfare at the local level, outreach and intake functions for crisis situations and heating and cooling assistance that is administered by additional State and local governmental entities or community-based organizations (such as community action agencies, area agencies on aging and not-for-profit neighborhood-based organizations), and in States where such organizations do not administer functions as of September 30, 1991, preference in awarding grants or contracts for intake services shall be provided to those agencies that administer the low-income weatherization or energy crisis intervention programs.

**\* This assurance is applicable only to States, and to territories whose annual regular LIHEAP allotments exceed \$200,000. Territories with annual allotments of \$200,000 or less and Indian tribes/tribal organizations are not subject to Assurance 15.**

(16) use up to 5 percent of such funds, at its option, to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and thereby the need for energy assistance, including needs assessments, counseling, and assistance with energy vendors, and report to the Secretary concerning the impact of such activities on the number of households served, the level of direct benefits provided to those households, and the number of households that remain unserved.

Certification to the Assurances: As Chief Executive Officer, I agree to comply with the sixteen assurances contained in Title XXVI of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, as amended.\* By signing these assurances, I also agree to abide by the standard assurances on lobbying, debarment and suspension, and a drug-free workplace.

Signature of the Tribal or Board Chairperson or Chief Executive Officer of the State or Territory.\*\*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* Indian tribes/tribal organizations, and territories with annual regular LIHEAP allotments of \$200,000 or less, are not subject to assurance 15, and thus must only certify to 15 assurances.**

**\*\* If a person other than the Chief Executive Officer of the State or territory, or Tribal Chairperson or Board Chairperson of a tribal organization, is signing the certification to the assurances, a letter must be submitted delegating such authority. (PLEASE ATTACH DELEGATION AUTHORITY.) The delegation must include authority to sign the assurances, not just to administer the program.**

**\*\*\* HHS needs the EIN (Entity Identification Number) of the State, territory or Tribal agency that is to receive the grant funds before it can issue the grant.**

In the above assurances which are quoted from the law, "State" means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, an Indian Tribe or Tribal Organization, or a Territory; "title" of the Act refers to Title XXVI of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 (OBRA), as amended, the "Low Income Home Energy Assistance Act"; "section" means Section 2605 of OBRA; and, "subsection" refers to Section 2605(b) of OBRA.

## **Modified LIHEAP FY 2010 Application**

Please list all changes made from your most recent detailed plan.

The Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP) will be initiating a pilot program with Family Investment Administration who administers the Food Stamp program for the State of Maryland starting in FY 2010. The purpose of this program is to enhance participation and benefits for food stamp recipients. Eligible households who do not pay their heating bills directly but make undesignated payments for heat in the form of rent can receive a higher shelter deduction due to Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) enrollment and will receive an increase in their food stamp benefit. These households will be categorically eligible for LIHEAP assistance based on their receipt of food stamps and will automatically be enrolled for a LIHEAP benefit for a minimum benefit of \$1.00. OHEP projects that an additional 5,000 households would benefit initially from this pilot program.

This pilot program will be designed to assure that these households are made aware of the assistance available under LIHEAP and will coordinate LIHEAP with other Federal and State programs.

### **OFFICE OF HOME ENERGY PROGRAMS**

#### **Income Eligibility Limits Effective July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010**

<b>Household Size</b>	<b>Maximum Monthly Income Standards</b>	<b>Maximum Yearly Income Standards</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>\$1,579.37</b>	<b>\$18,952.50</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>\$2,124.79</b>	<b>\$25,497.50</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>\$2,670.20</b>	<b>\$32,042.50</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>\$3,215.62</b>	<b>\$38,587.50</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>\$3,761.04</b>	<b>\$45,132.50</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>\$4,306.45</b>	<b>\$51,677.50</b>
<b>For each additional person, add</b>	<b>\$545.42</b>	<b>\$6,545.00</b>

Please describe how you obtained public participation in the development of your 2010 plan.  
(For States, please also provide information on your public hearings.):

Two statewide public hearings were held, statewide advisory meetings were held, notices published and written comments solicited.

### **TALBOT COUNTY**

June 2, 2009 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Talbot County Neighborhood Service Center  
126 Port Street  
Conference Room  
Easton MD 21601  
Contact: Cardeaner Robinson  
410-763-6745

### **BALTIMORE CITY**

June 3, 2009 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  
Baltimore City Department of Housing & Community Development  
2700 North Charles Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Conference Room  
Baltimore MD 21218  
Contact: Cherlyn Mitchell  
410-396-3584

Written comments concerning the Public Hearing Document were accepted until June 19, 2008, however, no comments were received, which resulted in no changes made to the MEAP Plan.

Date carryover and reallocation report submitted: 7/09

Submit Continuation Pages as Necessary